Best of Buffalo Walking Route
~1.7 miles | 3,500 steps

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Starting Location — Rand Building (1929)
- Franklin & William Kidd | Art Deco
- When built this was the tallest building in Buffalo (now 3rd tallest)
- Namesake: George F. Rand Sr., longtime President and Chairman of Marine Midland Bank

Step 1 — Soldiers & Sailors Monument (1883)
- Designer: George Keller
- Sculptor: Casper Buberl (figures)
- Honors veterans of the Civil War
- Four 8-foot figures represent infantry, cavalry, artillery, and navy.
- Lincoln’s Gettysburg Address is etched in the stone at the bottom of the column (facing Washington St.).

Step 2 — Liberty Building (1925)
- Alfred Bossom | Beaux-Arts / 2nd Renaissance Revival
- Originally called the German American Bank (founded 1882).
- Name changed (1918) due to WWI & public’s reaction to anything German.

Step 3 — Mahoney State Office Building (1932)
- Cornerstone laid by Governor Franklin Roosevelt in 1930.
- Walter J. Mahoney - powerful state legislator and state supreme court justice who served 38 years.
* Snag a picture of the City of Buffalo & NYS Seals on the building!

Step 4 — Jackson Federal Courthouse (2013)
- Kohn, Pederson & Fox | Post-Modern
- Curved wall designed to reflect the curvature of the circle & elevator tower mimics the McKinley Monument.
- The U.S. Constitution in full on the glass of the entry pavilion.

Step 5 — City Hall (1931)
- Dietel & Wade | Art Deco
- John Wade - Only 33 years old when he was hired.
- Building setbacks: Due to new zoning laws to allow more air & light on the street.
- Frieze: shows citizens surrounding Buffalo herself, depicted as a sybil, the recorder of history, who holds a book representing Buffalo’s history.

Step 6 — Old Buffalo Athletic Club
- 1924 - E.B Green & Son | Colonial Revival
- Note how it complements the Statler 1921-1923 (same arch. style). Statler designed by George Post & Sons.
- Statler built his 1st Buffalo hotel at Washington & Swan which featured private bathrooms for every room. Statler known for his innovations.

Step 7 — Old County Hall (1876)
- Andrew Jackson Warner | Late Victorian Romanesque
- Location of Buffalo’s first burial ground 1804-1830s.
- Originally City & County Hall until Niagara Square City Hall was built.

Step 8 — Guaranty Building (1896)
- Adler & Sullivan | Early modern skyscraper
- One of the first skyscrapers. Sullivan emphasizes the verticality - “every inch a proud and soaring thing.”
- 1974 - Fire occurred & demolition was threatened. Saved due to actions of Jack Randall & Sen. Daniel Patrick Moynihan.

Step 9 — St. Paul’s Episcopal Cathedral (1851)
- Richard Upjohn | English Gothic Revival Style
- Church incorporated in 1817.
- 1888 there was a gas explosion & fire that destroyed the interior-redesigned by Robert Gibson.
- Notice the asymmetry: feature of English Gothic churches & the triangular lot.

Step 10 — Ellicott Square (1896)
- Daniel Burnham & Co. | Italian Renaissance Style
- Advertised that a tenant could “do 2 days of work in 1 day” because they wouldn’t have to leave due to all the amenities in the building.
- 1896 one of the world’s first movie theaters was in the building: Edison’s Vitascope Hall.

Step 11 — Old Post Office (1901)
- Federal government architects | Victorian Gothic and Richardsonian Romanesque Style
- Opened in 1901 with the first letter going to President McKinley inviting him to the Pan-Am Expo.
- Excellent example of adaptive reuse—now home to ECC City Campus.

Step 12 — One M&T Bank (1966)
- Minoru Yamasaki | Modern/International Style
- Yamasaki was working on plans for the twin towers of the World Trade Ctr. In NYC while this was being completed.
- Note the green and white building materials: M&T Corporate colors.

Step 13 — Lafayette Hotel (1904)
- Louise Blanchard Bethune (of Bethune, Bethune, & Fuchs)
- French Renaissance Revival
- Planned to be open for the Pan-Am Expo 1901 but was delayed.
- Bethune was the first female architect recognized by the American Institute of Architects.
- Renovated by Rocco Termini in 2012 ($45 mil.)